

May 30, 1972

Mrs. G. V. Dorst
618 NW High Street
Boca Raton, Florida 33432

Dear Mrs. Dorst:

IH-86 Lead Glazes for Dinnerware

Thank you for your letter of May 23rd. It is extremely difficult to judge whether or not your "stomach troubles" are related to your work as a teacher for an amateur class in firing lead-bearing enamels. The symptoms you describe could be attributed to any number of causal agents. The only way to determine if you are suffering from lead poisoning is to have a medical examination which will include an analysis of the lead content of your blood. In general, the normal blood lead concentration ranges from slightly below 10 micrograms per 100 grams to 40 micrograms per 100 grams. The onset of even mild toxic symptoms is not noted prior to achieving a blood lead concentration of 80 micrograms per 100 grams. I am enclosing a copy of the booklet entitled "Industrial Lead Poisoning," by Robert A. Kehoe, which describes the symptomology of lead poisoning and the clinical tests which should be used. *Aymt mutology*

Further, it is not possible to judge whether or not you have adequate ventilation in the firing room. Certainly, the kiln should be vented to the outside, but whether or not a potentially hazardous situation exists can only be determined by appropriate lead sampling. My primary recommendation would be for you to have a medical examination to determine if your symptoms could be related to lead.

Sincerely,

J. F. Cole, Sc.D.
Director, Environmental Health

JFC:lg
enc.
cc: J. F. Smith

LIA-76937